

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SOFIA 00694 150340Z
ACTION INR-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 MCT-01 CPR-01
L-03 IO-13 SS-15 NSC-05 /061 W
-----026795 160102Z /62

R 141145Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4418
INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
RUDKRWAMEMBASSY WARSAW 1835

C O N F I D E N T I A L SOFIA 0694

STATE FOR INR/RNA

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PDIP, PLO
SUBJECT: PALESTINIAN REPRESENTATION ABROAD: BULGARIA

REF: A) STATE 91578; B) SOFIA 0077; C) SOFIA A-17, 3/15/78

1. FOLLOWING INFORMATION REGARDING PLO REPRESENTATION IN BULGARIA IS KEYED TO QUESTIONS REF A.
2. A. YES
3. B. PLO REPRESENTATIVE OFFICE IN SOFIA WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1975. EMBASSY WOULD CHARACTERIZE PLO OFFICE AS PARTIALLY ACCREDITED DIPLOMATIC MISSION. WE UNDERSTAND THAT IT HAS PAID STAFF OF THREE.
4. C. PLO COMPONENT ELEMENTS ARE CONSIDERED BY GOB TO BE REPRESENTED BY PLO, ALTHOUGH THEY CERTAINLY EXIST AS
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ENTITIES IN BULGARIA NONETHELESS, ESPECIALLY AMONG PALESTINIAN STUDENTS. THOSE THAT EMBASSY KNOWS OF IN SOFIA INCLUDE POPULAR FRONT FOR THE LIBERATION OF PALESTINE (FPLP), DEMOCRATIC FRONT FOR THE LIBERATION OF PALESTINE, GENERAL FEDERATION OF PALESTINIAN STUDENTS, AND EL FATAH. (SEE REF B FOR EXAMPLE OF IN-FIGHTING THAT OCCURS AMONG THEM.

5. D. PLO OFFICE CAR HAS DIPLOMATIC LICENSE PLATES. BULGARIAN COMMITTEE OF SOLIDARITY WITH PEOPLES OF AFRICA AND ASIA PROVIDES PLO WITH TWO-STORY HOUSE AS OFFICE, RENT-FREE. WE UNDERSTAND THAT GOB ALSO PAYS SALARIES OF SOME OF PLO OFFICE'S STAFF. PLO OFFICE SENDS NOTES TO EMBASSIES, INCLUDING OURS, ANNOUNCING ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES OF PLO REPRESENTATIVE OFFICE DIRECTOR, AS IS DIPLOMATIC PRACTICE IN SOFIA. PLO OFFICE IS NOT, HOWEVER, INCLUDED IN MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS' DIPLOMATIC LIST. AS FAR AS EMBASSY IS AWARE, OTHER PALESTINIAN ORGANIZATIONS ARE PERMITTED TO OPERATE AMONG PALESTINIANS HERE, BUT WITHOUT ANY PARTICULAR PRIVILEGES, IMMUNITIES, OR OFFICIAL RECOGNITION.
GARTHOFF

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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